

Daily Devotional, March 29, 2021 Come Lord Jesus, Come!

“But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. Mark 13:32-33 (NIV)

We have no shortage of watching these days. Many of us turn to the news outlets every day to see what is going on, to hear what new mandates are coming from the CDC, the White House, or even local governments. We keep a hopeful heart that one day we will hear how this virus is burning out, that the bans on gatherings are lifted, how, though cautious, we can go back to our regular routines. Though, through all this, I hope there are some things we find not as necessary or important, and maybe some things we once took for granted that we will appreciate more.

When Jesus is telling his disciples to be alert, he is speaking of a time when the Lord will come and reign on earth as He reigns in heaven. He tells us that no one knows the day or the hour, but we are to be prepared for that moment, and not fall asleep in our faith.

One very positive thing I have found in this time is that faith is awakening in many places, and in many people. People that were once hesitant to share their faith are becoming more bold. People are sharing, that faith is what they are falling back on in this time of uncertainty. My great hope is that these same people will remain this bold in their faith when the time of crisis is over. That we would continue to see news anchors ask religious leaders to pray on national television, that we would continue to see kind acts across the land, that we would continue to believe in the good that comes from God, and is found in one another, replacing all of the negative images that we see on a regular basis.

Yes, now we are watching, we are alert but, may our prayer be that we will remain so in the time that is still to come when everything seems “normal” again. I’m reminded of a verse in that very long psalm, Psalm 119. In it, the psalmist and the congregation sing of God’s instruction and justice. They hear of God’s righteousness and the life that is offered. Yet, in verse 148 we find the words: *My eyes stay open through the watches of the night, that I may meditate on your promises.* The psalmist knew there would be times when faith would seem dark and grim, but even then we must meditate on the promise of God’s salvation.

We do not know the time that we will be saved from our current situation, but we do know it is coming. And praise be to God for that moment. But even more importantly, we praise God for the salvation that is yet to come, when He returns to rule over us in everlasting peace. In the meantime, we will wait, watch, and remain full of hope in Him. Come Lord Jesus, Come!

Prayer: In this life between here and the not yet, give us courage and bravery to operate in Your truth even when we are afraid. Jesus, You have defeated death, and in You, we are victorious. We know You will come again. Be our strength when it’s hard to be brave in this world. Embrace us with Your encouragement and fortify us with Your perfect love. Come Lord Jesus we pray, Amen.